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VA 22313-1450 on

INSTHE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANT:

Durst; Almanza

RECEIVED

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SERIAL NO:

09/884,656

JUN 112003

5 MARK:

ENHANCED BALLISTIC PROTECTION MATERIAL

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

6 FILED:

June 20, 2001

7 CLASS:

1772

8 I

EXAMINER:

Jane Rhee

9 FILE NO.:

1578

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TODAY'S DATE:

June 3, 2003

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12 BOX -AF FEE

13 Commissioner for Patents

14 P.O. Box 1450

15 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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17 Sir:

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PETITION TO REVIVE PATENT

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Enclosed pleased find the \$160.00 filing fee for filing a Notice of Appeal in a timely manner. A chronological order of events that lead to the unintentional abandonment - leading to this petition to revive and \$55 filing fee - are as follows (copies enclosed):

On March 25, 2002, a Final Rejection office action was mailed. An informal amendment to the final rejection was faxed to Examiner Rhee on May 31, 2002. Based on that faxed proposal and telephone conversation with Examiner Rhee, submission of the actual response was mailed on June 7, 2002, and counsel was under the belief that the case would now be allowed. In June, July, August, and September we waited for the Allowance.

A telephone call from Examiner Rhee was received on October 23, 2002 stating that she had not received the amendment mailed June 7, 2002. Counsel advised her that he had in fact mailed the amendment and faxed the file copy to the fax number provided by Examiner Rhee. Again, no telephonic communication from the USPTO.

On November 13, 2002 an advisory action was received; responsive to the mailing of the amendment filed on June 7, 2002 and after the same amendment was faxed to Examiner Rhee 06/10/2003 ANDHDAF1 00000030 09884656

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55.00 OP

on October 23, 2002 and 17 weeks after the 6-month statutory deadline to respond to the final rejection mailing date of March 25, 2002. Counsel advised her that he was of the belief that the submission in June would be allowed even after resubmission by fax on October 23, 2002. Due to either a typing error or bad grammar, counsel was unable to comprehend the nature of the advisory and therefore he was unable to respond. A fax to Examiner Rhee request an explanation of the advisory action, and inquired why there had been such an extended delay by the PTO. But no answer was forthcoming. A second request for explanation to the advisory action was faxed to Examiner Rhee on December 12, 2002.

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A Notice of Abandonment was suddenly received without a cover sheet on January 13, 2003. An immediate phone call was placed to Examiner Rhee's supervisor Harold Pyon wherein he requested the fax submitted to Examiner Rhee on November 13th be forwarded to him. The document was faxed to the fax number provided by him. On Thursday, January 30, 2003, a follow up inquiry was carried out. Counsel was advised by Examiner Jane Rhee, "The case has been sent to depository for abandoned applications and there was nothing I could do to try to even explain the unintelligible advisory action." We were stuck. A telecon with SPE Harold Pyon yielded the statement, "The ultimate responsibility for filing a Notice of Appeal or continuing examination lies on you and you should do something before the date of the final rejection. The fact that the PTO didn't get your June response to the final rejection to the Examiner until October - after actual abandonment, is called 'just one of those things' and we're sorry. Technically speaking, the advisory action should not have been issued because of the fact the case had already gone abandoned."

The question may be asked why counsel did nothing prior to the 6-month statutory expiration. The answer is that on May 31, 2002, a proposed response was faxed for consideration by the Examiner, Counsel at the time of submission of the actual response on June 7, 2002; which was based upon the faxed proposal and telephone conversation, counsel was under the belief that the case would be allowed.

Applicants will suffer irreparable harm if prosecution of this case is not revived. The products covered by these claims are commercial items, and are a source of significant income to applicants' assignee. Counsel is willing to further amend the claim language should such be required, but in order to do so, the cooperation of the USPTO in either clarifying the error laden advisory or the resubmission of a new advisory or a mere telephone conversation of what changes if any are needed to place the case in condition for allowance needs to transpire.

The undersigned, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made

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